

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended):** A network system, comprising:

at least one network unit having a variable Internet protocol (IP) address and unique identification information;

a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server responsive to a request from said at least one network unit for assigning said variable IP address to said at least one network unit for a predetermined period of time; and

an agent server ~~including~~ comprising:

a communication unit for receiving said unique identification information and said variable IP address from said at least one network unit, for transferring said unique identification information and said variable IP address, and for receiving from a user unique identification information of a network unit selected by the user;

a database connected to said communication unit for receiving and storing said variable IP address and said unique identification information transferred from said communication unit; and

a control unit connected to said communication unit and to said database for receiving from the user via said communication unit said unique identification information of said network unit selected by the user, for searching said database for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit on the basis of the

unique identification information received from the user, and for enabling the user to gain access to said selected network unit in accordance with results of the searching of said database_s,

wherein said unique identification information received from the user includes comprises at least one of an Ethernet address of said at least one network unit and a search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit.

2 - 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented): The network system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said control unit receives said at least one of said Ethernet address of said at least one network unit and said search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit from the user over said network and via said communication unit, compares said at least one of said Ethernet address of said at least one network unit and said search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit with data stored in said database to produce a match, and searches for said variable IP address when the match is produced.

5. (Original): The network system as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said data stored in said database is updated at regular time intervals.

6. (Canceled).

7. **(Currently Amended):** A method of controlling a network system having a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server, an agent server, and at least one network unit, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) requesting a variable Internet protocol (IP) address for said at least one network unit from said DHCP server when said at least one network unit powers up;

(b) transmitting the requested variable IP address from said DHCP server to said at least one network unit;

(c) storing unique identification information and the variable IP address of said at least one network unit in a database in said agent server;

(d) receiving data at said agent server from a user over a network, comparing said received data with said unique identification information stored in said database, and searching for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit when said comparing produces a match; and

(e) connecting the user to said at least one network unit having the searched variable IP address;

wherein said method further comprising comprises the steps, between steps (b) and (c), of receiving said unique identification information and said variable IP address of said at least one network unit at said agent server, and transferring said unique identification information and said variable IP address of said at least one network unit to said database in said agent server; and

wherein said unique identification information received data from the user includes comprises at least one of an Ethernet address of said at least one network unit and a search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit.

8 - 9. **(Canceled)**

10. **(Canceled)**: ~~The method as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said data received in step (d) comprises at least one of said Ethernet address of said at least one network unit and said search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit.~~

11. **(Original)**: The method as set forth in Claim 10, wherein data stored in said database is updated at regular time intervals.

12. **(Previously Presented)**: The method as set forth in Claim 7, wherein data stored in said database is updated at regular time intervals.

13. **(Currently Amended)**: A network system comprising a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server, an agent server, and at least one network unit having a variable Internet protocol (IP) address assigned to said at least one network unit by said DHCP server, and unique identification information, said agent server comprising:

a communication unit for receiving, from each said at least one network unit, said variable IP address assigned to said at least one network unit by said DHCP server and said unique identification for each said at least one network unit, and for receiving from a user unique identification information for a network unit selected by the user;

storing means connected to said communication unit for receiving and storing said variable IP address and said unique identification information for each said at least one network unit; and

a control unit connected to said communication unit and to said storing means for receiving the unique identification information for the network unit selected by the user, and for searching said storing means for said variable IP address of said selected network unit on the basis of the unique identification information received from the user, and responsive to results produced by said searching for enabling the user to gain access to said selected network unit;

wherein said storing means comprises a database, said communication unit transferring said received unique identification information and said variable IP address to said database; and

wherein ~~said the~~ unique identification information received from the user includes at least one of an Ethernet address of said at least one network unit and a search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit.

14 - 15. **(Canceled)**

16. **(Currently Amended)**: The network system as set forth in Claim 13, wherein said control unit receives, from the user, the at least one of an Ethernet address and a search keyword corresponding to the network unit selected by the user.

17 - 18. **(Canceled)**

19. **(Currently Amended)**: A method of controlling a network system having a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server, an agent server, and at least one network unit, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) requesting a variable Internet protocol (IP) address for said at least one network unit from said DHCP server when said at least one network unit powers up;

(b) transmitting the requested variable IP address from said DHCP server to said at least one network unit;

(c) storing unique identification information and the variable IP address of each said at least one network unit in a database in said agent server;

(d) receiving at said agent server, from a user, unique identification information corresponding to a network unit selected by the user;

(e) comparing said unique identification information received from the user with said unique identification information stored in said database;

(f) determining said variable IP address of said network unit selected by the user when step (e) produces a match; and

(g) connecting the user to said selected network unit having the determined variable IP address;

wherein said unique identification information received from the user ~~includes~~ comprises at least one of an Ethernet address of said at least one network unit and a search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit.

20. **(Canceled)**

21. **(Currently Amended)**: The method as set forth in Claim 19, wherein the unique identification information received from the user ~~in step (d)~~ comprises the at least one of an Ethernet address and a search keyword corresponding to the network unit selected by the user.

22. **(Original)**: The method as set forth in Claim 21, wherein said data stored in said database is updated at regular time intervals.

23. **(New)**: The network system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the search keyword comprises a keyword which corresponds to and is not the same as said unique identification information received from said at least one network unit.

24. **(New)**: The network system as set forth in Claim 23, wherein the search keyword which corresponds to and is not the same as said unique identification information received from said at least one network unit is a common gateway interface (CGI) search keyword.

25. **(New)**: The network system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said unique identification information of said network unit selected by the user comprises an IP address of said agent server and a search keyword corresponding to the at least one network unit.

26. **(New)**: The method as set forth in Claim 7, wherein the search keyword comprises a keyword which corresponds to and is not the same as said unique identification information received from said at least one network unit.

27. **(New)**: The method as set forth in Claim 26, wherein the search keyword which corresponds to and is not the same as said unique identification information received from said at least one network unit is a common gateway interface (CGI) search keyword.

28. **(New)**: The method as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said received data from the user comprises an IP address of said agent server and a search keyword corresponding to the at least one network unit.

29. **(New)**: The network system as set forth in Claim 13, wherein the search keyword comprises a keyword which corresponds to and is not the same as said unique identification information received from said at least one network unit.

30. **(New)**: The network system as set forth in Claim 29, wherein the search keyword which corresponds to and is not the same as said unique identification information received from said at least one network unit is a common gateway interface (CGI) search keyword.

31. **(New)**: The network system as set forth in Claim 13, wherein said unique identification information of said network unit selected by the user comprises an IP address of the agent server and a search keyword corresponding to the at least one network unit.